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MEMORANDUM

November 2, 2005

V/R

From: Gary Reiter, Operations Section Chief, Hurricane Katrina ESF-10 Oil Pollution Reponse

To: CDR Cantin, Deputy Incident Commander, Hurricane Katrina ESF-10 Oil Pollution

Reponse

Subj: Transition of Murphy Oil to EPA Oversight

- 1. On Saturday, 29 October 2005 the work force at the Murphy Oil Facility in St. Bernard Parish completed the flushing of the storm drains that were affected by oil released from Murphy Oil during Hurricane Katrina. In addition, the free floating oil in all canals has been essentially eliminated, and is being maintained in what would be considered a Stage 2 condition when compared to other Katrina cleanup sites. The only minor oiling conditions are found primarily in the 20 Arpen Canal after major pieces of debris, such as vehicles, are removed from the canals by the U.S Army Corps of Engineers. However, these are very minor events that are cleaned up by crews with a few minutes after being found.
- 2. It is therefore, recommended that Murphy Oil be transferred back to EPA for their oversight of remedial actions that may be required in the adjacent residential areas. Since the Coast Guard and EPA will be working in a Unified Command for other Katrina cleanup related activities, we will certainly be available to assist EPA at this site should a significant problem develop.
- 3. I have instructed by Coast Guard monitors to stop visiting the Murphy Oil site as of November 3, 2005. I have also instructed them to transfer all monitoring records collected for this site to our New Orleans ICP on that date. Please advise if you have any questions or issues with these directives to the field personnel. In the meantime, I recommend, as we have discussed, that you advise EPA at the On Scene Coordinator level of our progress at this site and our recommendation for transition.